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Sep 4th 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I chose my local, independent Internet/phone provider because its customer support and quality of service was, and is, excellent. I am on my 10th year with my provider and completely satisfied. I absolutely DO NOT want the present status regarding broadband competitive providers to change.

Having dealt with three other major providers before my present one, I definitely do not want to switch. None of those were able to provide customer care and responsiveness like my local provider.

If limited to a small number of large network providers, it's clear that reduced competition in the marketplace will allow them to increase prices and have little or no incentive to attend to their customers' needs or allocate broadband services in a fair manner. If they gain full control of US broadband access, it's virtually guaranteed that prices will rise and no marketplace dynamics will exist to counterbalance it.

I also receive phone service from my independent provider and that, alone has saved me a great deal of money over the years compared to equivalent plans from the large carriers. I want to retain my right to freely choose from a range of carriers, large and small, without the major players imposing unfair limitations.

Thank you for your consideration,

James Musche